

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OSLO 01581 020700Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07
IO-13 EB-08 TRSY-02 OMB-01 /083 W
-----021752Z 027183 /50

R 011532Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3496
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USIA WASHDC
CNO WASHDC//OP-632
AMEMBASSY LISBON
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1581

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SPON, PO, GW, US, AID, MARR, NO
SUBJECT: SOARES VISIT TO OSLO: GON MILITARY ASSISTANCE

REF: LISBON 2552

1. DEFENSE UNDER SECRETARY JOHAN HOLST DISCUSSED BRIEFLY MILITARY ASSISTANCE CONTENT OF SOARES-GON MEETINGS DURING MAR 31 CALL ON AMBASSADOR. WE WILL REPORT SUBSTANCE OF REMAINDER OF SOARES VISIT SEPTTEL.

2. HOLST SAID QUESTION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL CAME UP ONLY BRIEFLY AT SOARES' MEETINGS WITH PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER. SOARES ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITIES OF DEALEY DESTROYER REFIT BY NORWEGIANS AND WAS TOLD NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE ACTIVELY CONSIDERING SAME BUT THAT GON NOT PRECISELY CLEAR ON WHAT IS INVOLVED. SOARES REPLIED THAT PORTUGAL IS INTERESTED IN ENGAGING IN A LEARNING PROCESS WITH ALLIES AS MUCH AS IN RECEIVING FUNDS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 OSLO 01581 020700Z

3. HOLST COMMENTED THAT HE HAD SUGGESTED TO DEFMIN HANSEN THAT GON SEND A TEAM TO LISBON TO EVALUATE MEEDS AND ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES OSLO MIGHT TAKE. ONE PROBLEM, HOLST ADDED, WAS THAT NORWEGIAN SHIPYARDS WHICH WOULD POTENTIALLY BE INVOLVED IN DESTROYER REFIT WORK WERE ALREADY FULLY EMPLOYED IN PRODUCING COAST GUARD PATROL BOATS. HOWEVER, IT WAS ULTIMATELY A QUESTION OF PRIORITIES AND COULD BE RESOLVED IF GON DECIDED TO PURSUE

PORTUGUESE DESTROYER REFIT.

4. AMBASSADOR SUMMARIZED LISBON MEDIA REPORTING ON SOARES' OSLO VISIT (PER REFTTEL) FOR UNDER SECRETARY TO WHICH HOLST RESPONDED THAT CONFUSION EVIDENT DURING MEETING HAD NOW BEEN REPEATED IN PRINT. LANGUAGE PROBLEMS EVIDENTLY MAJOR CONTRIBUTING FACTOR.

5. HOLST EMPHASIZED THAT SOARES' DISCUSSIONS WITH GON OFFICIALS DID NOT GO BEYOND POSSIBLE DESTROYER REFIT AND CERTAINLY DID NOT TOUCH ON PURCHASE OF F-5 AIRCRAFT ON ANY TERMS.

6. COMMENT: AFTER A NUMBER OF MONTHS OF SPORADIC AND RATHER DESULTORY BUREAUCRATIC CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE GON MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL, IT WOULD SEEM THAT OSLO HAS SIEZED ITSELF OF ISSUE AND WILL NOW TAKE SOME POSITIVE STEPS TO INCLUDE DISPATCH OF INSPECTION TEAM TO PORTUGAL IN RELATIVELY NEAR FUTURE. IT IS QUITE CLEAR FROM HOLST'S COMMENTS THAT EMPHASIS OF ANY NORWEGIAN DEFENSE AID WILL BE ON NAVAL IMPROVEMENTS--EITHER IN TERMS OF DESTROYER REFIT OR OF PERSONNEL TRAINING--RATHER THAN IN CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENT OF PORTUGUESE BRIGADE. SUCH A POLICY ACCENT IS IN PERFECT ACCORD WITH GON'S RECENT ACTIVITIES TO STIMULATE NORWEGIAN SHIPPING INDUSTRY AND PROVIDE MORE JOBS. AN UNSPOKEN BUT OMNIPRESENT ELEMENT IN ANY NORWEGIAN MILITARY PROGRAM IS QUESTION OF PUBLIC ACCEPTABILITY OF ARMS AID WHICH TO MANY NORWEGIANS MAY SMACK OF EMBARKING ON A CAREER AS MERCHANTS OF DEATH. CLEARLY TRAINING MISSIONS WOULD BE MUCH MORE PALATABLE. SUCH FACTORS WILL BE PARTICULARLY RELEVANT TO GOVERNMENT DURING AN ELECTION

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 OSLO 01581 020700Z

YEAR.
ANDERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, BRIEFING MATERIALS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OSLO01581
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770115-0085
Format: TEL
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770498/aaaadhjh.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 489f8bab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LISBON 2552
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2926544
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOARES VISIT TO OSLO: GON MILITARY ASSISTANCE
TAGS: SOPN, EAID, MARR, PO, GE, US, NO, (SOARES, MARIO), (HOLST, JOHAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/489f8bab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009